

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCON, GR
SUBJECT: SECOND PAN-MACEDONIAN CONGRESS JULY 31 - AUGUST 6

1. SECOND PAN-MACEDONIAN CONGRESS WOUND UP ITS PROCEEDINGS
ON AUGUST 6. CONGRESS ATTENDED FOR FIRST TIME BY
AUSTRALIAN DELEGATES AS WELL AS THOSE FROM CANADA AND
UNITED STATES. IN ALL 400 DELEGATES ATTENDED WEEK-LONG
SESSION OF CEREMONIES, BUSINESS MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS.

2. ALTHOUGH THERE WERE REPORTEDLY FEW ATTACKS ON U.S.
CYPRUS POLICIES, CONGRESS LEADERSHIP DID ISSUE
FOLLOWING TOUGH RESOLUTION:

"THE II PAN-MACEDONIAN CONVENTION PROTESTS STRONGLY AGAINST
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FOR THREE
YEARS HAVE ELAPSED SINCE THE CYPRUS INVASION BY THE TURKS
AS A RESULT OF WHICH MORE THAN 200,000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN
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DRIVEN OUT OF THEIR HOMES REMAINING TO THIS DATE IN TENTS
IN MISERABLE CONDITIONS AND DEMANDS THAT THE AMERICAN
GOVERNMENT MOVES FOR A FAST AND JUST SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS
PROBLEM, FOR THE REPATRIATION OF THE REFUGEES TO THEIR
HOMES, AS WELL AS THE CUT-OFF OF ALL MILITARY AND ECONOMIC
AID TO TURKEY."

3. MOST NOTEWORTHY ELEMENT CONGRESS SESSIONS WAS FANFARE AND PUBLICITY GIVEN TO PROCEEDINGS BY GOG. GREEK CIVILIAN AND MILITARY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING MINISTER OF NORTHERN GREECE MARTIS, FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN PROCEEDINGS. MINISTER OF CULTURE TRIPANIS WAS ON HAND FOR OPENING CEREMONIES AS WAS FOREIGN MIN UNDERSECRETARY TRIKOUPI. LATTER STATED THAT HE HOPED TO VISIT U.S. AND CANADA SOON TO VISIT GREEK COMMUNITIES IN THOSE COUNTRIES. TV-RADIO COVERAGE WAS EXTENSIVE. GREEK OFFICIAL AND PAN-MACEDONIAN SPEAKERS STRESSED NEW THREATS FACING NATION AND IMPORTANT ROLE OVERSEAS GREEKS IN ASSISTING IN STRUGGLE. HOWEVER, REFERENCES TO HISTORIC "MACEDONIAN ISSUES" NOTED ONLY FEW TIMES AND CONSIDERABLY PLAYED DOWN.

4. PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE WAS READ ALOUD AT CLOSING DINNER AND WAS HEARTILY APPLAUDED. DEATH OF MAKARIOS HALF WAY THROUGH CONGRESS CAST SHADOW ON PROCEEDINGS. PAN-MACEDONIANS FELT THEY HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO CONTINUE WITH THEIR ROUND OF CEREMONIES AND OTHER FUNCTIONS EVEN THOUGH GREEK OFFICIALS DECLINED TO ATTEND SOCIAL EVENTS AFTER WEDNESDAY. PAN-MACEDONIANS WERE RANKLED BY CRITICISM THAT THEY FAILED TO SHOW RESPECT DURING PERIOD OF NATIONAL MOURNING. IN ALL, HOWEVER, CONGRESS ACHIEVED ITS GOAL OF STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF STRONG TIES BETWEEN HOMELAND AND OVERSEAS GREEKS AND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEED TO FURTHER DEVELOP SUCH TIES.
ZACHARY

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